

Restoring Historical Iowa Polls: Iowa Poll #213

Iowa Policy and Opinion Lab

University of Iowa



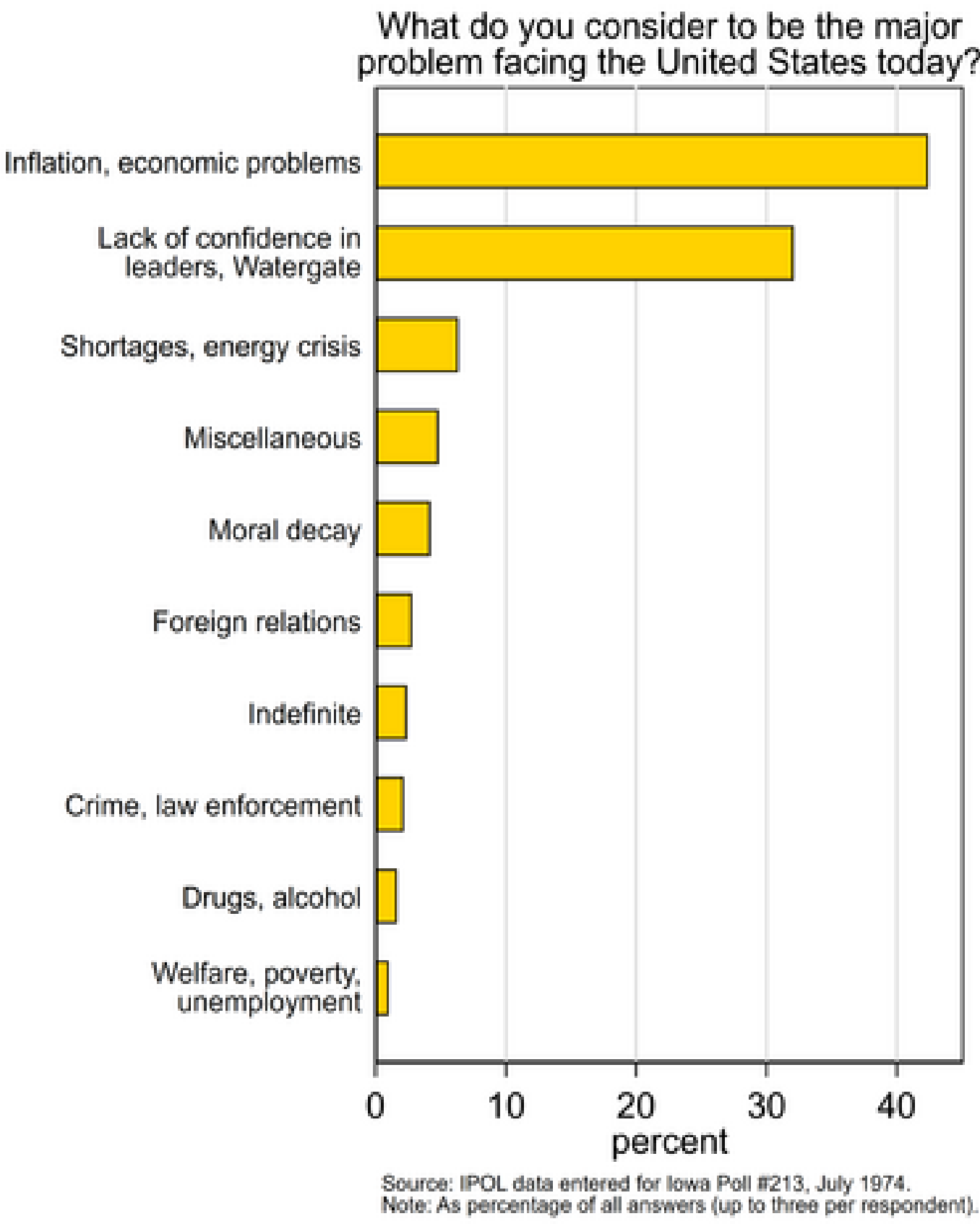
Top Problems Facing the U.S.

42% of responses chose inflation and economic problems as the major problem facing the US.

34% of responses chose a lack of confidence in leaders and Watergate.

46% of Republicans and **39%** of Democrats selected inflation.

Only **26%** of Republicans selected lack of confidence in leaders and Watergate, compared to **38%** of Democrats.



About IPOL

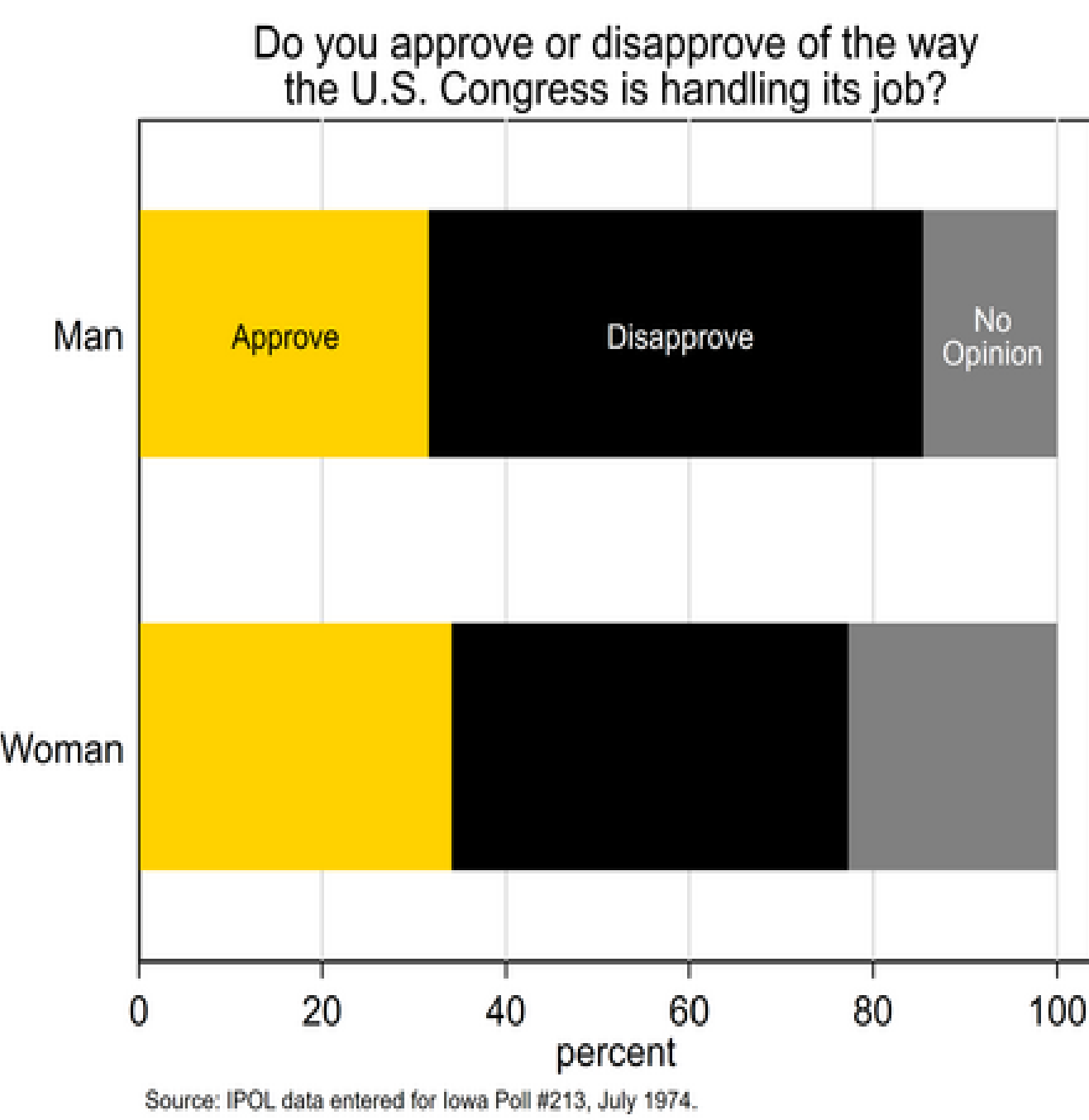
The Iowa Policy and Opinion Lab is a research group with about 20 student associates who collaborate to study policymaking and public opinion in Iowa. Currently, the students are restoring rediscovered Iowa opinion polls from 1946 to 1981 originally conducted by the Des Moines Register to examine and compare responses to modern-day opinions.

Restoring Historical Iowa Polls

We received boxes of old Iowa Poll questionnaires and data sets from the 1940s through the 1980s from the estate of Tom Mans, UI PhD in Political Science, 1981.



Approval of Congress



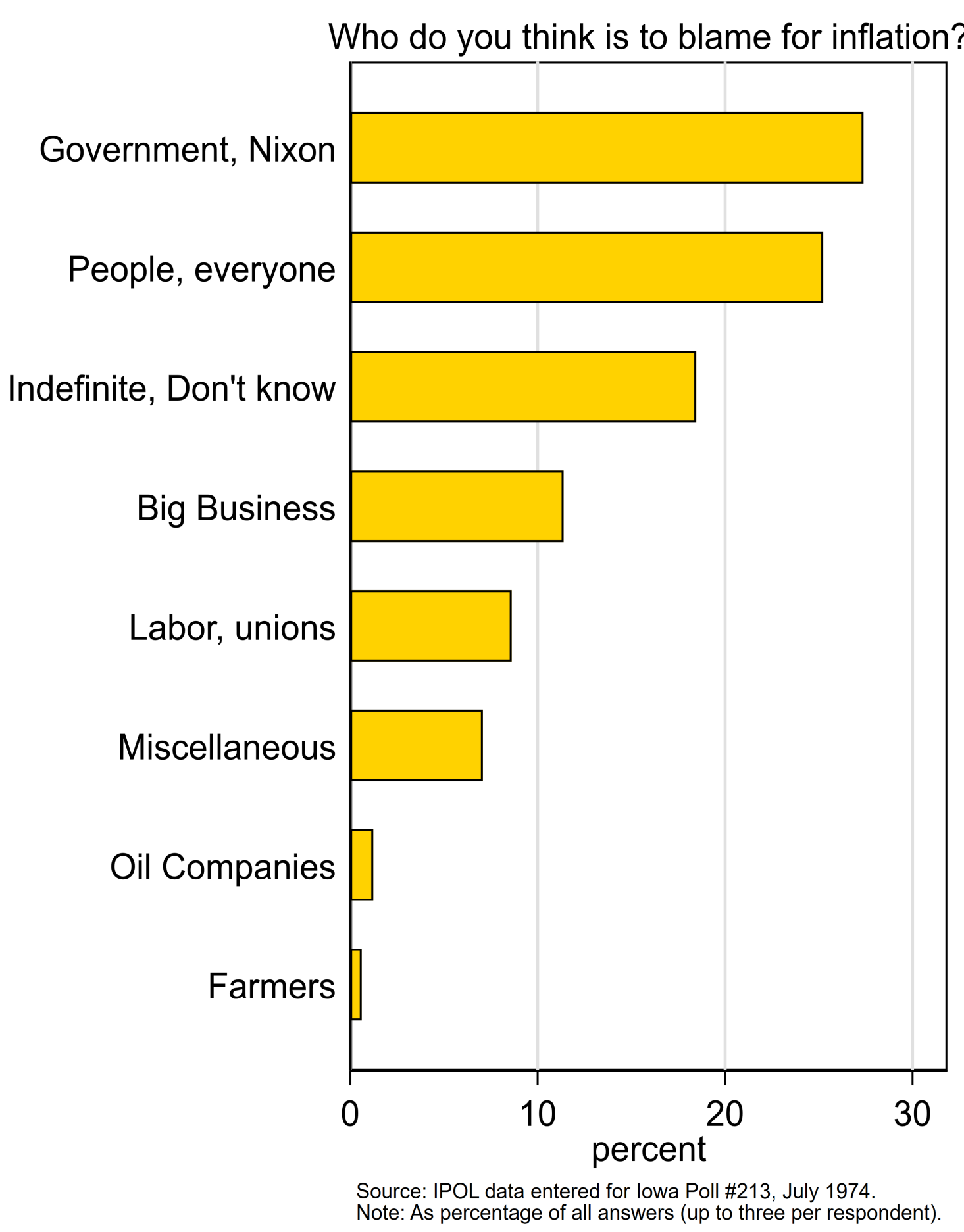
33% of total respondents approved of Congress, while **48%** disapproved.

32% of men and **34%** of women approved of Congress.

54% of men and **43%** of women disapproved.

Women were more likely to express no opinion, with **28%** choosing this option compared to **15%** of men.

Inflation and Wages



68% of respondents reported that their wages and salaries had not kept pace with inflation.

20% of Republicans blamed the government for inflation, compared to **34%** of Democrats and **22%** of Independents.

More than half didn't offer an estimate for the current yearly inflation rate.

Among those who provided an estimate, **13%** thought inflation was 20% or more, and **12%** estimated it at 10-11%.

Unfortunately, we were unable to retrieve the survey data from the 40 year-old tape reels.

So, we double-entered it by hand from the printed copies we received, totaling about 200,000 entries.

About Iowa Poll #213

Conducted by the Des Moines Register.

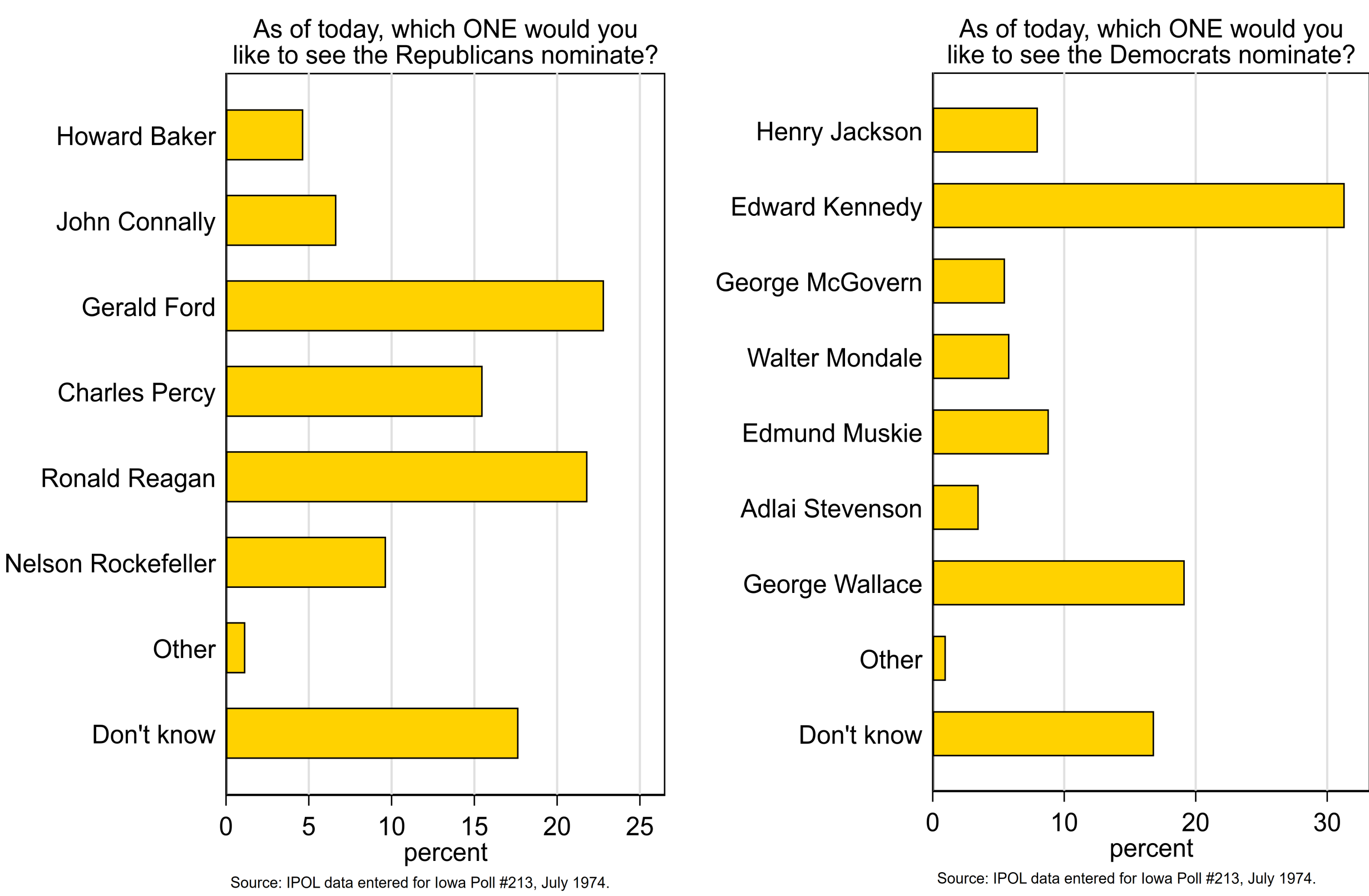
Completed 601 face-to-face interviews with Iowans from July 19-23, 1974.

Asked over 50 questions about Iowa politics, international issues, healthcare, and media.

Acknowledgments

IPOL is grateful for support received through the Department of Political Science and the Marvin and Rose Lee Pomerantz Chair in Political Science. We also thank Carol Hunter at the Des Moines Register for her assistance.

Presidential Nomination



Wallace led among those with less than a high school education, while Kennedy led among voters with a high school diploma or some college.

Ford was most popular among lower-income voters, while Reagan performed best among higher-income voters.

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